NEW ADDRESS: Rt. 7, Frederick, Md. 21701:::301/473-8186

January 18,1968

Dear Chet Huntley,

On your year-end roundup (congratulations on a thoroughly professional performance of conspicuous competence!), referring to the Stokeley Carmichaels, you said we'd be in terrible shape if people and news were suppresses. Your own words were better. I wish I recalled them exactly to quote.

True, you and NBC do not suppress Carmicheel.

But you and NBC do suppress, and on an issue just as vitel - I think more vital.

I invite you to examine what you have aired on the fake investigation with which a President was consigned to history, and what NBC has.

It is true that this is an enormously complicated subject, made unnecessarily so by the abdication of the press and the deception of government. But that in no way diminishes the responsibility of the reporter and the medium to examine it and to present what hard news there is.

Perhaps immodestly, I think virtually all that hard news stems from me and my work. NBC has not aired me once-not a single time. Mine was the first book. I am the only one working in the field to have continued his work. I challenge anyone to show any major contribution in any of the works that have followed mine, that was not first brought to light by me. Likewise, I challenge anyone to show a major error in any of my four published books.

My own news experience tells me that what I have done, right or wrong, is itself news. How many men work as long, as hard, as endlessly, without income, in pursuit of a principle? How many buck lethargy, official and unofficial, or go in debt to become their own publishers? How many thereby open up a closed field? Yet what attention there has been has gone to those who came along and harvested the crop I had plowed and sown simply because they had commercial sponsorship. What does this say of the press, of the news press of radio and TV? Is there no news, no publishing news, not delivered to you by a flack?

Friends who became friends through their respect for my work sought out friends on NBC's Today Show. They were told Today would be glad to air me-on any other subject. The subject opened and NBC did a show - using those whose books appeared later. NBC advertised my opposition-using the then well-known copyrighted name of my book to advertise them!

Any impartial examination of what I have done, aside from becoming a publisher without a cent of capital and going farthur into debt to continue this work, will show it is an investigative reporting job like none you have ever seen. Just look at the appendix to PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH: SUPPRESSED KENNEDY ASSASSINATION PICTURES. John Starr is to have given you all four of my published book, so you should have it. Or read the revelations of the deception and suppression of CIA involvement in OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS (none of my books have been mentioned on NBC save for a cheap crack by your colleague David

Brinkley), and in the context of your proper comment on the roundup, justify to yourself, if not to me, failure to mention any of this work on the show you preside over.

Regardless of what is or is not true, regardless of whether you believe the Warren Commission right (and you can only by never reading its Report), this is the touchstone issue of our lives. The integrity and future of our society hinge on it. Suppose the government was wrong? Is any President thereafter safe? Any of our institutions? Suppose Oswald was framed? Is anyone thereafter immune to similar framing?

Now suppose, as I tell you, that government deliberately, knowingly told us a lie. Not that the members of the Commission were conspirators, simply that to hide the other federal involvements in the assassination, the FBI and Secret Service, with the anxious collaboration of the Commission staff, manufactured a case each should have known was a fiction and palmed it off, in the absence of any legal opposition, for there was no defense, and in the presence of abdication by the press.

I have more than a thousand pagesmof official documents that were suppressed by the govemmment. I got them, quite properly, from official files. They will, someday, make the most exciting TV special yet, and they are vital to the viabilityxof the democratic society.

(Among these is the evidence that NBC paid Marina for an advance comment on the Report she had never seen, whose contents she could not know or evaluate if she did know them, when its competition got her free-earlier!)

So, think about your trenchant remark on the year-end roundup-and your own part is making the "terrible mess".

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg

P.S. And I dare you to spend an evening asking me questions about this or listening to what I can tell you-and prove.